

# Mohave County Miner.

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## The Business Man as a Mining Engineer.

Success in business is sometimes responsible for men overestimating their capacity to manage the affairs of a business with which they are not familiar. This is not infrequently the case in mining. It is not an uncommon thing to see a number of business men associate themselves for the purpose of purchasing and operating a mining property, and this association often takes corporate form. A mine is bought, a superintendent and manager appointed—usually one of their number or some one whom they all know to possess business experience, and who has made a success of merchandising or, perhaps, in politics, but whose mining knowledge is confined to such paragraphs as have come to his notice in the daily papers. The newly created mine manager provides himself with a copy of the miner's "vade mecum" or a text book or two, and starts for the mine, where he is enabled to size up the situation with rare judgment, born of business experience, aided by an industrious perusal of the books he has bought, while enroute to the mine. As few mines are of consequence without a mill or a smelter, he solicits bids from several manufacturers for the construction of a "first-class, up-to-date" mill. Having accepted one of the bids, the lowest, and placed the order with the mill founders, he turns his attention to the mine. A tunnel, perhaps, exposes a vein apparently 100 feet wide. This, he is satisfied, should be able to supply a large mill with an enormous amount of ore for years. Some more development work is done and it is then discovered that there is another outcrop on a distant part of the property, on which no work has been done. Men are placed at work on this and a shaft sunk 40 feet or more in the ore. By this time the mill machinery begins to arrive at the mine. The question of site has not been seriously considered, but a flat bench at the side of the gulch is selected, this being the only level bit of ground in the vicinity. True, it is up the gulch some distance above the mouth of the tunnel, but this is not material, as "the ore can be hoisted up an inclined tram into the mill cheaper than the cost of grading the hillside below the tunnel." All energies are now directed to mill construction, and at the end of 90 days the mill is completed under contract, and milling operations commenced. It is then discovered that the water supply is insufficient, but this can be developed further. In the meantime exploration in the tunnel has developed the fact that the vein has been crossed diagonally and the vein is but 30 feet wide, instead of 100—bad, but it might be worse. In a few months the tailings outside the mill on the flat begin to give trouble. A bulkhead has to be built to prevent their running back into the mill. Soon the ore shoot begins to show signs of playing out at the ends. The foreman, working under directions, had a hard time to keep the mill supplied with ore. The new development in the shaft has not come up to expectations, and only one level is open on the main vein. After a struggling existence for a few weeks longer, the mill running on part time, the mine can no longer keep the mill going, and, hanging up one battery after another, the mill is finally shut down for several months, to await the development of the mine. During this period the general expenses are heavy and the outlook unpromising. In time, the mill is again started up, and after several years of this sort of "recess" operation the property is either placed on a substantial basis through the manager learning by experience, at the expense of the stockholders, or it is closed altogether. How different all might have been had a competent engineer been engaged in the first place. Thousands of dollars would have been saved in equipment and thousands more in operation, but neither the stockholders nor the manager knew this. It may seem that the above is an exaggerated instance, but such is, in fact, not the case. It is, indeed, a very much better outcome of a bad situation than usually results under similar conditions and is due largely to the

fact that the mine is really better than the average and will stand considerable bad management and still pay a profit.

It is true that the technical mining engineer is not always a good business man, and failures are sometimes due to this lack of business experience, where success might have resulted, but in most instances the mining engineer has sufficient acumen to surround himself with a staff of specialists, as assistants, and among these will be found at least one who is competent to look after the commercial features of the concern. On the whole, as between the business man as a mining engineer, and the mining engineer as a business man, the proposition is largely in favor of the latter.—Mining and Scientific Press.

## TERRITORIAL FAIR.

To be Held at Phenix, Arizona, Dec. 4th to 9th, 1905.

The MINER is in receipt of the following communication from Mr. V. L. Clark, superintendent of the Arizona Territorial Fair Commission:

The Arizona Territorial Fair Commission are pleased to inform you that the Fair grounds have been permanently located near the city of Phenix, Arizona.

Arrangements have been made to erect permanent buildings thereon, and it is contemplated to reserve one of these buildings for the use of the mineral exhibit of the Territory.

It is a fact, well known, that heretofore the mining industry of Arizona has not had the prominence it deserves, but it is the intention of the Commissioners to now make a special effort to see that the mineral product of the Territory shall be properly placed before the public, and with this end in view, the Commissioners respectfully ask for the co-operation of every mining man in the territory.

It is the purpose of the Commissioners, to reserve space for an exhibit from every mine and reduction plant in Arizona, but in order to do this, and that the Commissioners may have an idea of the total space required, it is requested that those who desire to send a collection of minerals will, as soon as possible, notify the Commissioners, stating space required, kind of minerals, and if the exhibit is to remain permanently, etc.

The Commissioners are desirous of making a permanent exhibit of samples from every class of mineral found within the limits of Arizona, the word mineral, includes all kinds of valuable stones, such as slate, granite, lime stone, gypsum, onyx, marble, etc.

The success of the mineral exhibit of the Fair will depend largely upon the mining men of the territory, and it behooves every one to make an endeavor to send a collection, so that the public can see what Arizona is producing.

In sending an exhibit each specimen should be labeled, stating class of mineral, from what mine extracted, and from what county, etc.

The mineral exhibit of the Fair will be under the supervision of an experienced mining man, who will give his entire attention to that department. The mineral exhibit, used at the Fair at St. Louis, has been returned here, and will be utilized as a basis of the Fair collection, and it is desired to make it the most complete in the southwest.

The Commissioners request that all who desire to send an exhibit, will do so not later than November 1st, 1905, as it will require considerable time to get the exhibit in place.

Address all communications to Arizona Territorial Fair Commission, Phenix, Arizona.

## Take a Pick and Shovel Vacation.

It is not at all unusual to hear able-bodied men, tradesmen, and even professionals remark: "If I thought I could find a mine (or even a good paying claim) I believe I would buy an outfit, strike out for the mountains, and prospect for a month or two." That's just what Comstock and Butler said and what thousands of others have said since gold was found in Cal-

ifornia, minus the "if." They simply bought the outfit and went. Comstock tramped into the barren, unlivable and inhospitable mountains of the sagebrush state and made a discovery that added hundreds of millions to the world's wealth.

Butler piled his frugal outfit on his long eared companion in his researches and finally camped under the shadow of Mt. Oddis, in the bleakest desert portion of the same state. The Tono pan of today and its bonanza mines bear testimony to the result of his prospecting tour.

The true theory of upbuilding and advancement is to talk about, write about and in every way possible make known abroad the merits and advantages which one's town or locality offers, in a truthful, straightforward manner. Where this theory is adhered to growth and prosperity follow; without it a community goes plodding along in the old, half dead, half alive, groove. It is hardly necessary to refer to special instances in the brief history of this western empire.—Mining and Engineering Review.

## Diamond Fields a Fake.

Tonopah was thrown into a fever of excitement last Sunday by the report that diamonds had been discovered about three miles northeast of Tonopah, and near the Halifax mine. A stampede to the alleged diamond fields followed, and before nightfall a town was established. This grew so fast that on the following day a sister town, a short distance away, sprang into existence. Everything went along swimmingly, the so called diamonds were extracted from mother earth and pronounced genuine by alleged experts, and visions of diamond fields that rival those of South Africa flitted through the minds of the residents of the new towns. But alas! there happened to be a real diamond expert in Goldfield, Capt. Hassell, who has spent many years in the African field, and who, upon hearing of the alleged find, repaired post haste to this city. He made several careful tests, and as a result of them announced that while the so called diamonds appeared diamonds, they were only silica. That settled it, and where the beginning of the week saw the rise of what the promoters believed would be two of the greatest cities on the continent, the end of the week saw their fall, and hereafter they will exist only in memory.—Tonopah Bonanza.

## General Mining News.

Frank Cline, who worked over the tailings left by the Gold Hill mill, is moving his outfit to the neighborhood of Dos Cabezas, Arizona, where he has secured the right to work a tailing dump left by a mill. The dump is not as large as the one left at Gold Hill, nor quite as rich. The one at Gold Hill averaged 55¢ a ton, and Mr. Cline took out over 10,000¢ in gold. If when the ore was first put through the mill this gold had been saved it would have made a great difference in the prosperity of the owners.—Liberal.

F. G. Downey, the oil expert who is interested with a number of valley people in oil prospects near the artesian belt, was in Solomonville last week. He has been in the Dos Cabezas district for several months past and tells of a number of rich mining strikes there. Downey reports that in Apache Pass a four and one-half foot ledge has been discovered that runs 18,000¢ a ton in gold and silver. This claim is owned by Messrs. Thompson of Globe, James and Gardner. J. H. Ragan also has a claim running 67.50¢ in gold, and the Collard Bros. 22 inch ledge runs 40¢ in gold and 50 per cent lead. Mr. Downey says that all the big strikes mentioned have been made within the past two weeks and that every day new prospects are being opened up. He says that there is no wild boom on in that country but that the staff is there that will make millionaires of a number of men now on the ground.—Bulletin.

The Consolidated Mines & Development company's prospect is still in sulphide ore encountered nearly two

weeks ago. Samples of ore assayed at the Old Dominion office on Tuesday are said to show six per cent copper, four per cent sulphur and 21 per cent iron, as well as a small amount of arsenic. Of course, all the ore does not show such values, but there are stringers in the ledge that look good to many who have visited the property. The contractors have been instructed to sink until the clay seam on the foot wall is encountered and then deflect the incline keeping in the ore and on the clay line. The work will thus be all in ore and most of it will have some value. When the depth contracted for, 150 feet, is reached a crosscut will be run to the hanging wall. Speculation in the shares which were originally issued at 5 cents, has been very active for a week past and several thousand shares have been traded in at from ten to fifteen cents.—Silver Belt.

A deal was consummated in Clifton last week, where by the International Mining company of Leadville, Colorado, is to finance a bond sale for the Polaris Mining company of this district for 1,000,000. A considerable amount of money has already been put up, and more will follow faster than it can be used. While the control of the company passes to the Colorado people, there will be no change in the local management, which is well, because the development work is now in the hands of a competent man, L. F. Sweeting, who is familiar with the property. Mr. Sweeting will at once proceed to reconstruct the wagon road up the canyon, which was damaged by the heavy rains of last winter, after which he will have the old workings of the mine cleaned out, and the property put in condition for active operation, which will be commenced about October 1st. It is Mr. Sweeting's intention to commence with twenty five or thirty men, and work will be continued at three different points. The Polaris company has done a considerable amount of work during the past two or three years, but the company's property is one of magnitude and will require the expenditure of a large sum of money in order to put it in shape as a permanent producer. The contract with the International Mining company calls for 72,000¢ with in three years, which is ample for both development purposes and the erection of a suitable plant for the reduction of the ores. Development work will be pushed as rapidly as possible, and when it has been finally determined that there is a sufficient amount of ore in sight to justify it, a plant will be ordered and erected. The placing of

the Polaris company on a solid footing, and the resumption of work at the mine, means much for that section of the district, and doubtless will encourage other companies to proceed with development work. The Polaris company own about sixty claims, nearly all of which show strong and well mineralized veins. There is no doubt in the minds of mining men who have investigated the property as to the bright future which now awaits the company. The Era extends congratulations to shareholders, and also to Mr. Sweeting, who has been successful in overcoming many difficulties, and putting his company on a sound financial basis.—Copper Era.

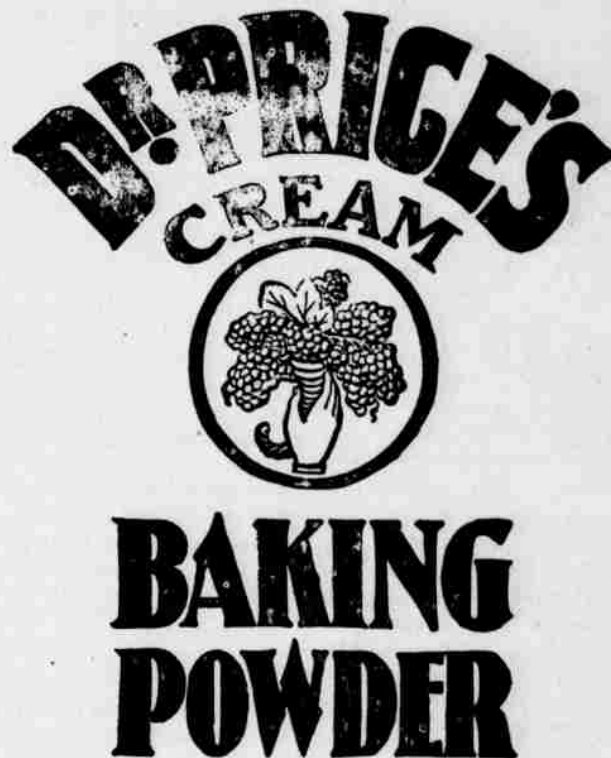
At the properties of the Derby Mining Company, last Sunday, lightning struck and shattered a tree and killed a burro which was standing beneath the tree. Six hundred feet from the tree struck is the Derby Mining Company's shaft. This shaft is down 100 feet and a drift extends 600 feet from the bottom of the shaft. The men working on the face of the drift received a severe shock when the lightning struck 300 feet above them. The men at the bottom of the shaft received no shock, showing that the bolt struck the ledge exposed on the surface, followed the ledge through the earth, and shocked them working 300 feet below.—Prescott Courier.

Don't overlook the fact that Lovin & Withers carry furniture, mattresses, stoves, tinware, heavy and shelf hardware, etc., and can set you up in housekeeping in elegant style. And the prices will suit you.

## Good Spirits.

Good spirits don't all come from Kentucky. Their main source is the liver—and all the fine spirits ever made in the Blue Grass state could not remedy a bad liver or the hundred and one ill effects it produces. You can't have good spirits and a bad liver at the same time. Your liver must be in a fine condition if you would feel buoyant, happy and hopeful, bright of eye, light of step, vigorous and successful in your pursuits. You can put your liver in fine condition by using Green's August Flower—the greatest of all medicines for the liver and stomach and a certain cure for dyspepsia or indigestion. It has been a favorite household remedy for over thirty-five years. August Flower will make your liver healthy and active and thus insure you a liberal supply of "good spirits." Trial size, 25¢; regular bottles, 75¢. At all druggists.

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